

HOUSE BILL 2452  
By Ferguson

AN ACT to name a segment of State Route 58 in Roane County in honor of the late Deputy Dennis Ray Armes of the Roane County Sheriff's Department.

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly has paid homage to those outstanding citizens who during their lifetimes distinguished themselves as invaluable assets to their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the late Dennis Ray Armes, Deputy of the Roane County Sheriff's Department, was most assuredly one such exemplary public servant, as he gave his life while protecting his community from those who sought to do it harm; and

WHEREAS, a great tragedy befell Roane County on the fateful day of March 15, 1983, when Deputy Armes was shot and killed after stopping a vehicle on State Route 58; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Roane County were deeply aggrieved and horrified by this terrible and wasteful loss of one of the county's best and brightest law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Armes truly enjoyed being a police officer, and he evidenced uncommon dedication to his duties with the Roane County Sheriff's Department despite the long hours and the uncertain and often dangerous nature of his profession; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Armes was a highly respected member of his community, not only as law enforcement professional who served and protected his fellow citizens, but also as a neighbor and friend; and

WHEREAS, the Roane County Commission has petitioned this General Assembly to name a segment of State Route 58 in the vicinity of the old Fairview School and inclusive of the Fairview community in Deputy Armes' honor; and

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body most heartily concur with this excellent proposal to honor the bountiful life of Deputy Dennis Ray Armes of the Roane County Sheriff's

Department, an exceptional police officer and human being who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the segment of State Route 58 in Roane County from such route's intersection with State Route 72 northward to its intersection with State Route 304 is hereby designated as the "Deputy Dennis Ray Armes Memorial Highway" for the purpose of providing a lasting tribute to the late Deputy Armes, an exemplary public servant who made the ultimate sacrifice of his life while protecting his community and fellow citizens.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating such segment of State Route 58 in Roane County as the "Deputy Dennis Ray Armes Memorial Highway". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.